

I am very upset by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary right before the election. This is a dangerous precedent and a great argument against media monopolies.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

This commission has a responsibility to prevent the kind of monopoly of our airwaves that could turn this wonderful democracy of ours into a dictatorship. Democracy can only survive with a fair and impartial media. What Sinclair is doing is far from fair and balanced. They should be stopped immediately.

Thank you.